SING SING PRISON, ITS BUILDINGS AND THEIR INMATES.

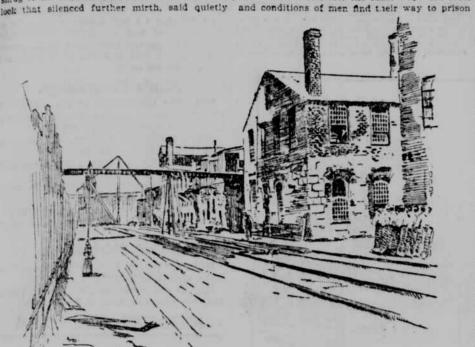
HOW THE TOWN HAS SUFFERED THROUGH THE NAME-A SURPRISE TO STRANGERS-CONVICTS MAY BE EMPLOYED IN BEAUTIFYING THE

PLACE-VIEWS OF WARDEN SAGE.

you done and when will you be out again?"

vagrant for the latter's term of sentence, two artistic home, and the number of these is inweeks, in a solltary cell, with labor attached, of creasing with every passing year, has an in-

"Going to Sing Sing, are you? What have "Is that so? Then you shall never see me here such was the salutation of a waggish friend words, while he may not have made of himself to one whom he met in the Grand Central Sta- a useful member of society, he kept within in New-York City, and the laugh went legal bounds thereafter. A good many people gether by a mutual acquaintanceship. The man | never be gained by the State's resort to contract the irreverent query was addressed | convict labor, and some of these same people somed in the laugh, although with a discontented | are to be found in Sing Sing, and history shows shrug of the shoulders, and then, with a serious | that the convicts feel the same way. All sorts



SCENE IN THE YARD SHOWING RAILROAD TRACKS AND ANTIQUATED SHOP BUILDINGS.

and impressively. "I am going there to see my | for one criminal cause or another. Experts in There was an instant change in the some branch of the mechanic arts are to be demeanor of every man in the party, and the found in plenty in the ranks of the 1,400 men man who had first spoken said, as he removed who make up the roll in Sing Sing. There are his hat at the mention of that one world-encir- carpenters, stone masons, joiners, contractors cling word. "I beg your pardon." The two men expert in figuring on bids for work and skilled lasped hands and gazed deep into each other's eyes, for the one word had been spoken that ancibilates space and distance and draws hearts | pipe organ for the new chapel, which is aplose together. Somehow the first speaker, proaching completion. This organ, if built on with that spirit of flippancy that characterizes | the outside, would cost the State nearly \$3,000. moment that there might be something else at | will contain more than one thousand pipes. thing which is decined objectionable, and which and six stories in height-was designed by a infortunately has risen to such prominence in | convict in the prison seventy years ago, and the average traveller up the broad bosom of the lordly Hudson, unless thoroughly acquainted with the panorama infolded as the steamer casses it in review pefore his constantly deplitted gaze, generally asks for the name of the

but nestles in the encircling sweep of tion sought, he expresses his astonishment that, like the rest of the world, he should have been so long deceived into confounding two localities idely separated as the poles. Sing Sing is a cuburban city. It is a city of homes, which is one of the lovellest appellations that can be aplied to any corporation. Its location on the rising ground that extends back from the river bank, its well-paved streets with their abundance of shade, the well-kept grounds surrounding many of the more pretentious houses, the wide sweep of river and the broken line of the bills across the Hudson to the westward combine to make an ideal place for restful living. Yet it is oppressed with the presence of the place of punishment, and is known to the world, not for its beauty of location nor for the hospitality of its people, which is proverbial, but for the dark shadow of the prison, which, while in it, is not of it in any correct sense of the term. The business men of the city who have its interests at heart unite in condemning what they have thus far been unable to mend, the growth of a sentiment which has undoubtedly retarded the material prosperity of the city, and which might have been obviated largely if, in the first place, the prison had been known by a different name. And there is a growing feeling that the time has now come when it may be possible, if not to remove the impression altogether, at least to lessen the force of it by improving the prison. and while keeping it none the less a prison within, to dignify its exterior by altering its ap-

It is for this reason in part that the advent of the new State Constitution was hailed with feelings of gratification by the business men of Sing Sing, and the pleasure experienced was due to the insertion of one amendment in that document. The amendment refers to the employment of convict labor by contract. It reads:

of convict labor by contract. It reads:

Article III, Section 29. The Legislature shall, by law, provide for the occupation and employment of prisoners sentenced to the several State prisons, penitentiaries, jails and reformatories in the State; and on and after January 1, 1897, no person in any such prison, penitentiary, jail or reformatory shall be required or allowed to work, while under sentence thereto, at any trade, industry or occupation wherein or whereby his work, or the product or profit of his work, shall be farmed out, contracted, given or sold to any person firm, association or corporation. This section shall not be construed to prevent the Legislature from providing that convicts may work for, and that the products of their labor may not be disposed of to, the State or any political division thereof, or for or to any public institution owned or managed and controlled by the State, or any political division thereof.

The hour for fulfilment of this condition is not far distant, and contract labor in the prisons of the State of New-York will be history; but the question is already struggling for answer, What will be done with the prisoners? Once more the principle evolved by Florence Nightingale seems to be rising for adjustment. In discussing the problem of prison reform and the treatment of the criminal class of society, she said she beileved that the principle that should underlie the treatment of all crimes against property was "to cease to board and lodge thieves at the cost of the people they have robbed, and to teach them by practical experience that it is cheaper in actual money value to work than to steal. If a thief's or a forger's sentence were that he had to work his way out of prison by repaying the amount, or more than the amount he had stolen. and repaying the State besides for his sustenance out of his earnings, instead of being provided for and lodged in prison, he might then, perhaps, learn this lesson, instead of the one now actually taught him, that it is dearer to work than to

HOW ONE LESSON WAS TAUGHT.

Of course this remark was made more than thirty years ago: but, somehow, it appears to fit the case as it is presented by the new Constitution, although no such contingency was in the mind of the writer at the time, speaking as she did from the English point of view. Almost exactly the same principle was evolved by another writer on the same issue writing about the same time. He was the governor of a prison, and was

charged the governor said to him:

"Now, during this fortnight you have earned just double the cost of your food. The rest you | metropolis to the capital of the State, and its have earned toward my salary-the expenses of | banks should be made a continuous park, and your own punishment."

According to the narrative, the fellow was perplexed beyond all measure, and said dumbly: again," and he kept his word good. In other are ready to declare that such an end could

The present cell building-500 feet in length

LOOKING TOWARD THE CELL BUILDING

FROM THE NORTH.

stands to-day as a commentary upon the vaga-

ries of the human intellect, for what man pos-

sessed of such striking architectural ingenuity

could possibly prefer a life of shame to a

of posterity. The history of the designer of the

building is not immediately at hand, but it

would be interesting and instructive to learn

course. When the prisoner was about to be dis- terest in it. The Hudson River is one of the resorts of the Nation. It is the great highway, whether by railway or by steamer, from the there is no reason why Sing Sing Prison should not be made attractive. This is the argumen advanced by the people who have suffered under a confusion of terms, for which they have been in no sense responsible, and the method is one which the constitutional provision placed within the power of the Legislature of the State to employ and at a minimum of cost. In fact, it is the application of the principle evolved by Florence Nightingale. Let the prisoner pay for his own detention and for the detention of those who are to come after him. Contract labor has never been as profitable to the State as it has been to the contractor for that labor, and in laboring for the State the contention of those most interested is that the prisoner will be able to restore to society in some measure that which he has taken from it, first in the loss of his own legitimate activity as a citizen; second, in the product of his crime; third, in the expense of his arrest, prosecution and conviction; and, fourth, in the experse of his maintenance.

Expert reformers assert that if a convict could be made to feel that he was paying to be locked up every night he would be more chary of zetting himself involved in such a disagreeable situation. He would no longer be able to resort to the much heard arrayment that society over method is one which the constitutional pro-

situation. He would no longer be able to resort to the much heard argument that society owed him a living, either in or out of jail. The pres-ent condition of the prison needs only to be studied to make the necessity and the expedi-

THE PRISON BUILDINGS.

It is a pleasant drive from the station to the prison entrance, and the front gives an indication of what is possible to be done in the way of artistic surroundings. It is to be borne in mind that the decorative portion is not so much for the inmates as for those who are compelled to suffer by outward neglect of it. A prison is none the less a prison because it wears a gilded exterior. The New-York Central Railroad runs along the landward side of the buildings, part of the time between high retaining walls and partost to the side of the track and extending for 500 feet along its line runs the main cell buildcells for 1,200 prisoners. At the southern end of this the main office stands, and connects with building in appearance, and which is made more handsome and inviting by wide verandas, which look out over a beautifully terfaced lawn, shaded with trees and an extensive greenhouse. The mansion has wide, deep windows, a number of great airy rooms, and plenty of sunshine. Beginning at its southwest corner, however, and forming the inner boundary of the corner, is the high wall of brick, which incloses the prison is no necessity of considering any of the space outside the walls as they stand to-day. The grounds extend in an irregular line from the railroad tracks to the edge of the river. The corners of the walls reach to the water, but between there is a pler space of some width, and within the high iron fence that lines the waterfront is a spur of track from the Central railroad for the convenience of the shippers of

goods from the shors.

Directly behind the entrance office and folned on to it from the lower ground is an old building FOUND BESIDE THE NEW-YORK CENTRAL of almost Colonial antiquity in design. It is low, its windows are small, and it has a gabled roof. Then joining to this is the initiatory indication f what is possible to be done in the way of imin the new mess hall, chapel and hospital com-bined. The building is 230 feet in length by 78 noon. The body was found by Michael Shortell, a track feet in breadth. It is of brick, with trimmings of dressed stone, and the first story is faced with of dressed stone, and the first story is faced with polished stone. The entire space on the first floor is given over to the mess hall for the priscourse that must bring honor at the hands oners.

The second floor is open to the height of two ordinary stories, and about it on the three sides are great windows filled with cathedral giass. These are a sufficient indication of the religious purpose to which it is to be dedicated at an early date, for it is rapidly approaching completion. Across the centre of the interior there is a two-Across the centre of the interior there is a two-thirds partition, opening in the centre, as if ar-ranged for folding doors. In fact, it is to be di-vided off into two chapels, one for the Protes-tant and the other for the Catholic element in the prison. The new pipe organ when com-pleted is to be so placed as to make possible its use for both services, held, of course, at different hours. The walls and celling are to be hand-



NEW BUILDING, CONTAINING MESS HALL, CHAPELS AND HOSPITAL.

needed, still, he would not have it materially different from the venerable pile that is the most prominent figure at present among the thirty or more that are contained within the twelve acres of ground which are inclosed by the boundary walls. One change he would suggest, that the new buildings when erected should not be more than four stories in height. But, while deferring to his unquestioned ability and lending the most complete and the most sincere indorsement to his administration of a strust which is filled with troublesome and disagreeable issues, there are those who will entertain differences of opinion on the issue of the external appearance of the buildings which will have to be put up in the near future, and the erection of which it is believed can and should be hastened by the abolition of the contract labor system.

WHERE THE CITIZENS ARE INTERESTED.

It is in this view of the case that the citizens of the city of Sing Sing claim to have a vital interest nor are they alone. The thousands of

MANY CHANGES NEEDED. compelled in the discharge of his duty to confine River scenery by the erection of a costly and in years gone by, and wherein he told the "Tale of a Cell," there occur these stanzas:

He leaned upon his prison bars.

And gazed until the sun went down.

And one by one the twinkling stars

Glowed bright in Night's imperial crown.

But the broad sky was shut from view.

A glance upon the rippling wave.

And one small strip of heaven's blue

Was all his narrow window gave.

The old building is practical and the cell space is admirably arranged, for, by means of the cen-tral division where the officers are stationed, every portion of the space and all of the gal-leries are under the eyes of the keepers at all

PLANS FOR NEW BUILDINGS.

Immediately behird the cell building is the old messroom, a .ow-browed structure of stone which is already doomed by the approaching completion of the new mess hall, so it may be passed over thus lightly. It stands, together with a long succession of old brick shops, right in the way of an improvement which Warden Sage has suggested, and which should be made at once. There is an immediate necessity for an additional S00 cells and Mr. Sage's idea is to have the new cell building attached to the old at the centre line, and extended from it toward the river a distance of perhaps 500 feet, but only four stories in height. By this means the integrity of the present complete system of surveillance over the prisoners when in quarters would be preserved, for the present bridge would serve for both buildings. After January 1 next the old shop buildings will be useless, aside from one or two of the better sort, perhaps. The rest should be replaced. Of course, the idea is that the convicts themselves shall be utilized to bring about this reform in building. As to the character of the buildings themselves a great deal depends upon what they may be called upon to shelter.

PUBLIC WORKS AND CONVICT LABOR. passed over thus lightly. It stands, together

PUBLIC WORKS AND CONVICT LABOR. There are indications in the amendment to the Constitution of an intention to utilize the prisoners for some needed work in the State. Warsubject, that they might be called upon to make a portion of the clothing worn in other institutions, in addition to their own, as well as the

Then there is an enormous amount of expense attached to the public works of the State. Every year a great number of small bridges

The pose admirably if nothing more was to be considered than the mere sheller of the workmen and of the product of their toll; but the number of those who believe that something more is needed is increasing every day, and there is

A ROY'S BODY IN A CUT.

TRACKS, WHERE HE HAD PALLEN WHILE AT PLAY

James F. McGovern, seven years old, of No. 1.84 ed construction. This indication is found York Central Railroad at One-hundred-and-twenty taining wall, which is about twenty-two feet deep at that place. The rain had deposited about four inches of water in the disch and the body was half-sub-merged. The face, hands and clothing were covered with mud and the dust and cinders from passing trains. Shortell examined the body and found a great hole in the back of the skull, from which the brain protruded, and on a block of paving-stone close by were numerous blood stains.

Word was at once taken to the East One-hundred-

and-twenty-sixth-st. police station and the body was removed to the station on a stretcher, and the Coroner and the boy's family were at once informed. How he boy met his fate was unknown until investigation was made by the police, and they found that all the circumstances went to prove that he had fallen from the wall into the cut. Above the spot where the body was found is one of the immense trusses that span the cut and on which trains are to be run until the elevated structure now in course of construction is

A portion of the protecting wall above the cut and of the iron railing that surmounts it has been re-moved to give a solid foundation for the truss, and in the opening thus made is a rude board fence placed to prevent accident. On the avenue alongside of the fence is a low pile of railroad timbers. The pile of timbers and the opening in the wall are almost directly in front of the house in which the McGoverns live. It had been the daily habit of the children of the neighborhood, young McGovern among the rest, to neighborhood, young McGovern among the rest, to play on this pile of timbers and the adjacent fence. They would even climb over the fence and venture on the base of the truss, although they had often been warned of the danger. Friday afternoon the little boys were playing at the dangerous spot, little Jimmie McGovern among them, and about 4 o'clock he was suddenly missed by his playmates. His absence aroused only momentary attention, and the califoren went on with their play. When James McGovern, the boy's father, who is a plumber reached home from his work, little Jimmie had not appeared, and after supper the father went out to look for him. The neighborhood was searched in vain, no iddings of the missing hoy could be found, and the disconsolate father went first to the East One-hundred-and-twenty-sixthest, police station and afterward to Police Headquarters and reported the case. A general alarm describing the boy was sent out, and Mr. McGovern went home, where he spect the night in anxious warching, varying his vigil with occasional visits to the police station. Mrs. McGovern, who is the boy's step-mother, was confined a few days ago, and she is still unable to leave her bed. She was so, much distressed at the boy's absence that she boxime hysterical and required the attention of a physician. Mrs. Govern went to his work very reluctantly and with a heavy heart yesterday morning.

It is evident that while at his play Friday afternoon the boy slipped either from the wall or the treatle, but it is most surprising that none of his companions saw him fail.

A rumor was current in the neighborhood that the boy had been pushed from the wall by a playmate. play on this pile of timbers and the adjacent fence

him fall.

A rumor was current in the neighborhood that the hoy had been pushed from the wall by a playmate, but the police say they have not heard even a suggestion of such a thing and that they believe the boy's death was entirely accidental. The portion of the cut where the boy's body was found is dark even at noon on a clear day, so it is no wonder the body remained so long undiscovered.

"CHICAGO PAUL" AGAIN ARRESTED. Central Office Detective-Sergeants Arfkin and

Beckley arraigned before Judge Cowing in General Sessions, Chambers, yesterday, Paul Siebert, alias

Chicago Paul, who is said by the police to be a

notorious crook. He was arrested with Ernest Lash on August 5 while both were spectators in General Sessions at the trial of Otto Schaeffer, alias "Big Otto," who got fourteen years in State's prison Siebert was arrested on the Bowery Friday, as the Central Office detectives learned that he was about to sail for South Africa. When arrested there was found on his person a ticket for Liverpool by the steamship Umbria, which sailed yesterday, WHERE THE CITIZENS ARE INTERESTED.

It is in this view of the case that the citizens of the city of Sing Sing claim to have a vital interest, nor are they alone. The thousands of people who daily and weekly pass up and down the river have an interest in it. In fact, everybody with an eye for the beautiful in nature has an interest in it. Every individual who has enhanced the natural beauty of the Hudson imposed by law.

WINDOWS IN PLENTY.

There is one thing about the old structure that is good. The windows are of such number that is good. The windows are had another steamship ticket from Liverpool, Eng

TALK OF A GENERAL STRIKE.

ADAMS EXPRESSMEN TO MEET IN VARIOUS CITIES-VIEWS OF SUPERINTEN-

DENT ZIMMERMAN. A small delegation of the men who went out from the Adams Express Company, headed by Michael Kelly and J. J. Fitzgerald. Master Workmen of District Assembly 49, with which the local body of expressmen is affiliated, called at the company's offices, No. 59 Broadway, yesterday, to see President Weir. President Weir always goes out of town on Saturdays in the summer, and the delegation went away without announcing the purpose of their visit.

Calls for meetings to-day of the union employes of the Adams Company have been issued in all the larger Eastern cities. Master Workmen Kelly and Fitzgerald say the object of the meetings is to earn the sentiment of the men regarding a general strike, which was prophesied to occur on Mon-day. Reports of the sentiment of these meetings will be sent to the Executive Board of the General Assembly, and the matter of a general strike, in case the company will not accede to the demands of the men who are out, will then be decided upon.

The men here feel confident that President Weir will see a delegation on Monday and give a just hearing to their demands. Messre. Kelly and Fitzgerald say that several large shippers over the Adams Company's lines have signified their willingness to see Mr. Weir personally and ask him to reinstate the old men. The Master Workmen also talk of securing a body of representative public men to arbitrate the difficulties.

President Weir insists that there are no difficulties; that certain men left the employ of the com-

from the Knights of Labor for their reinstatems in a body was another matter, about which President Weir alone could speak. Mr. Zimmerman said he doubted if such a thing as a general strike was possible. He did not know how many of the company's employes belonged to the Knights of Labor, and he doubted very much if men who held good places and had no grievance would quit work because a few men had been discharged for negligence in this city.

In regard to the bonds which the employes of the company are required to give, Mr. Zimmerman said: "When a man leaves the employ of the company and another is engaged to take his place, the first man's name on a bond is erased, and the second's put in its place. This is done at our request, by the company, this taking, perhaps, two or three weeks, and the bond is then begin by the bond company, this taking, perhaps, two or three weeks, and the bond is then either finally accepted or rejected for the new man. During the investingation the old bond is sufficient.

A NEW MODE OF SHIP-RAISING.

THE MIDPORD COMPANY'S METHOD-EXPERI-

pany will be successful. The method is at present is a difference among wrecking companies in the

Clyde Line, was beached on account of a collision with an Old Dominion liner, and one of the Ameri- baggage, can Line steamships ran aground in the Lower carried a large number of mail bags besides her ered by the divers, who were sent down to recovered by the divers, who were sent down to obtain all that was possible, and since then every effort has been made to raise the ship. At present only the top of her smokestack and the upper part of her masts are showing above water. The method used by the Misiford Company is a newliar one. The Alisa lies on the botton, and her keel is imbedded in about fourteen feet of mud. This has been one of the great obstructions to raising her. The Milford Company has sent divers to the lottom, and they have dug nine tuniois under the keel of the vessel, large enough to nois under the keel of the vessel, large enough to nois under the keel of the vessel, large enough to nois under the keel of the vessel, large enough to nois under the keel of the vessel, large enough to nois under the keel of the vessel large enough to show any to walk through them. Huge chains we caussons med with water, when the proper re comes, and the wind and tide are favorable company intends to exhaust the caissons, and buoyant power of the thirty-six caissons is ex-ted to be enough to raise the snip. About the falls of this week is the time set for the ex-

LOCAL BUSINESS COMPLICATIONS.

Benjamin Lewin and Ignatz Rosenzweig, com-posing the firm of Lewin & Rosenzweig, cloak manufacturers at No. 64 Grand-st., made an assignment yesterday to Louis J. Vorhaus, giving preferences for \$3,90-to Churles Nebenzuhl, \$500; David Rosenzweig, \$500; M. Garfinkei, \$1,400; Joseph Klein, \$200, and Mr. Fried, \$200. They began business in 1863, and on January 1 last claimed a capital

of \$5,900. The schedules of the E. L. Goodsell Company, fruit auctioneers, of No. 10 Jay-st., show liabilities, \$250,042; nominal assets, \$420,105; actual assets, \$93.-

Deputy-Sheriff Loub has received an attachment for \$1.103 against John K. La France, dealer in pictures under the style of the La France Art Exhange, at No. 1,234 Broadway, in the Grand Hotel in favor of William G. Leland, for rent. Mr. Leland said that all the pictures were removed from the store on August 19, at 5 a. m., in two large trucks, by J. H. Van Auken, of Boston, who claimed them under a bill of sale, and were taken to a carpenters ship in West Thirty-first-st. to be packed for shipment to Boston. Andrew P. Pulver was the manager of the business, and Mr. Leland believed him to be Mr. La France, but in the trade it is said that he is Mr. La France's sonin-law. The Sheriff went to the carpenter's shop and locked up the room containing the pictures. John H. Rogan has been appointed receiver of the Original Boston Wyman Lunch Company, of this city, by Justice Smyth, of the Supreme Court, on the application of three directors—C. W. Ironside, F. W. Brown and John Asimus. They say that they are unable to control the business methods of Mr. Wyman, who is president of the comfavor of William G. Leland, for rent. Mr.







pany. It was incorporated on Pebruary 25, with an authorized capital stock of \$2,000, only a small part of which was paid in. The liabilities are \$5,000, and the nominal assets \$2,000.

SPEAKER REED IN DEMAND.

TWENTY-EIGHT LIFE INSURANCE COM-PANIES WISH HIM TO BE THEIR REFEREE.

The place of referee for twenty-eight of the bestknown life insurance companies of this country has been offered to Speaker Thomas B. Reed by a committee representing the companies. Mr. Reed, it was said yesterday on excellent authority, has signified his willingness to accept the place. It will be necessary for the companies to ratify the choice before the selection is formally completed. There is no doubt of Mr. Reed's confirmation, as all the companies consulted thus far have approved the choice. The office was held by the late William E. Russell, of Massachusetts, at the time of his death. It is regarded as an extremely honorable place. The Equitable Life Assurance Society, the Mutual Life, the New-York Life, the Home Life and other large old-line insurance companies are among the twentyeight which unite in choosing a referee to settle all disputes among the companies regarding rebates on what are known as level premiums. The duties have proved light so far, but these great companies require for a referee a man of judicial mind, and one who is fair-minded as well as able.

Representatives of these companies have held from time to time in recent years what are known as anti-rebate meetings, and a mutual agreement

FELDHEIM AGAIN ARRESTED.

CHARGED WITE PUTTING IN A FALSE CLAIM FOR INSURANCE.

Otto C. Feldheim, an importer, of No 621 Broad-way, is a prisoner at Police Headquarters. He was arrested yesterday by Detective-Sergeants Cuff and Farley on a warrant charging him with the presentation of fraudulent claims for the pay-MENTING ON THE All.SA.

An interesting question has lately arisen in shipping circles, and that is whether the attempt to rules the Atlas Line steamship Atlas, which came raise the Atlas Line steemship Atlas, which came into collision with the French liner La Bourgogne Hotel, where he was staying. McNaught returned to New-York to get requisition papers. The morning after his arrest Feldheim was taken before a Supreme Court Judge of Monmouth County, N. on a writ of habens corpus and discharged. He city, and nearly all of them except the one that is found that Feldheim had left some baggage at the West End Hotel, and they watched there until method now being employed to raise the Ailsa will last Wednesday, when the trunks were forwarded to the Hoffman House here. Since then the dea heavy fog on the afternoon of what in ship-ping circles is known as "Black Saturday," for on however, a driver in the employ of Brunner's exhowever, a driver in the employ of Brunner's ex-press, in Third-ave, near Twenty-fifth-st, drove to the Hoffman House with an order for Feldheim's

The detectives jumped into a cab and followed The Alisa was bound out for Jamaica, and the wagon. The baggage was delivered at the express office in Third-ave. The officers hung around there for a few hours, and finally Feldheim appeared. They then arrested him and took him to

DEAD IN A FIFTH-AVE, BASEMENT.

For some time an old grizzly bearded man, whose clothes were of the sort that showed him to be a homeless wanderer, has been in the habit of creep-ing into the basement of No. 265 Fifth-ave, on rainy nights and sleeping there. The number mentioned is a large apartment-house, of which a man named Hardy is the janitor. Hardy has frequently found the old man sleeping in the basement, but he never molested him. About 5 o'clock yesterday morning, when Hardy came downstairs, he noticed the old fellow etretched out on a lot of newspapers. He was in the habit of making a bed out of newspapers. Hardy called to him to get up, but he made no response, and when Hardy looked a second

made no response, and when many located a second time he saw that the old man was dead.

Hardy called a policeman, who had the body removed to the West Thirtieth-st. station. The old man was about sixty years old, had gray hair and beard, and was dressed in dark clothes and a light overcoat. He had no stockings on. Death was due to natural causes.

SUICIDE BY HANGING. George Berringer, forty-eight years old, of No. 188 Orchard-st., committed suicide yesterday by hang-He fastened a rope to the transom over the door of his bedroom, and then slipped the noose around his neck. He was dead when his wife found him. Berringer was janitor of the tenement-house at the above number. He was a large stout man and weighed nearly 300 pounds.

stout man and weighed hearly 300 pounds. The intense heat of last week affected him greatly and he began drinking.

He had been in his cups for three or four days, but Friday night redired early and slept all night. When he awake yesterday morning he was nervous and indisposed. He went out about 3 o'clock and returned about 11 o'clock, and went into the bedroom saying he wanted to get some sleep. A little later his wife found him dead. Berringer leaves a widow and two grown children.

CHIEF CONLIN MAKES A TOUR.

Chief Conlin made a trip Friday night and early yesterday morning through several police precincts He only stopped at two stations, Eldridge-st and the Tenderloin, but he went through four other precincts. He went around to see how some of the new acting roundsmen were doing their duty, and also to observe to what extent discipline was being maintained among the patrolmen by the old roundsmen as well as the new.

The Chief made a trip through the districts cov-ered by the Oak-st., Mulberry-st., Elizabeth-st., Tenderloin, West Forty-seventh-st. and Eidridgest. police. He was out until 3 o'clock yesterday et police. He was out until I o'clock yesterday morning. Mr. Conlin said that he was looking around generally to see how the police were deing, and he was satisfied with their work. Speaking of his visit to the Eldridgest, station, he said: 'I noticed by the blotter that Acting Captain Hogan was out in his precinct at all hours of the day and night, and did not turn in until 3 or 4 o'clock in the morning. He is doing good work over there."

TRYING TO SWIM IN THE STREET.

Jacob Polack, who says he is a tramp and has ne home, was a prisoner in the Essex Market Court yesterday, charged with disorderly conduct. Polack was supplied with a tomato can, which he had fre-quently filled with stale beer from kegs lying on the sidewalks in front of saloons. He became so much intexticated, according to Policeman Rosenmuch intoxicated, according to Policeman Rosen-feld, of the Eldridge-st. station, that he imagined he was at Coney Island, and prepared to take a swim, at Orchard and Division sts. He removed his clothing, and dived into the middle of the street, where Rosenfeld assisted him to his feet. The po-liceman had great difficulty in forcing Polack to pu-on his clothes again. The latter made a vigorous resistance when arrested, but was finally landed in

Magistrate Deuel fined the prisoner 8.